

AMENDMENTS*In the Claims:*

Please amend the claims as indicated.

1           1.       (Currently amended) A method of providing suggested completions for a  
2       numeric data entry, comprising the steps of:

3                   a)     receiving a numeric data entry;

4                   b)     applying a set of rules to the numeric data entry to identify a candidate  
5       match from a list of possible matches, the set of rules implementing a plurality of variables,  
6       the plurality of variables defining a plurality of search states from which a candidate match  
7       is selected; and

8                   c)     receiving a response signal associated with the candidate match.

1           2.       (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the numeric data entry and the list  
2       of possible matches are telephone numbers.

1           3.       (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the candidate match is  
2       provided to a user interface, and the response signal is received from the user interface  
3       further comprising the steps of:

4                   d)     if the said response signal is an acceptance of the candidate match,  
5       replacing said numeric data entry with the candidate match;

6                   e)     if said response modifies the numeric data entry, continue at step (b)  
7       with the modified numeric data entry; and

8                   f)     if said response is a rejection of the candidate match, displaying the  
9       numeric data entry.

1           4.       (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the numeric data entry  
2       has n digits or less, and the applying a set of rules step comprises the step of retrieving the  
3       contents of the an address book location identified by the numeric data entry as a candidate  
4       match.

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1           5.       (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the numeric data entry  
2   has n digits or less, and the applying a set of rules step comprises the step of retrieving all  
3   numbers associated with ~~the~~ an address book location identified by the numeric data entry as  
4   a candidate match.

1           6.       (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein ~~the~~ a number of digits  
2   in the numeric data entry  
3           entered by ~~the~~ a user is equal to x digits long, where x is greater than m but less than  
4   p, and the applying a set of rules step comprises the steps of:  
5                    searching through a memory storage device which contains one or more  
6   numbers,  
7                    identifying stored numbers that match said numeric data entry as a candidate  
8   match.

1           7.       (Currently amended) The method of claim 6, wherein the identifying step  
2   comprises comparing ~~the~~ x most significant digits of ~~the~~ a stored number in memory to the  
3   numeric data entry.

1           8.       (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the numeric data entry  
2   entered by ~~the~~ a user is x digits long, where x is greater than q, then no candidate matches  
3   are displayed to the user.

1           9.       (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein a magnetic media  
2   device contains a program module to perform said method ~~the task of Claim 1.~~

1           10.   (Currently amended) A method of providing suggested completions for a  
2   numeric data entry, comprising the steps of:

3               a) receiving a numeric data entry;

4               b) applying a set of rules to the numeric data entry to identify ~~one or more~~ at  
5   least one candidate ~~matches~~ match from a list of possible matches, the set of rules  
6   implementing a plurality of variables, the plurality of variables defining a plurality of search  
7   states from which the at least one candidate match is selected; and

8               c) receiving a response signal associated with the at least one ~~of the~~  
9   ~~multiple~~ candidate ~~matches~~ match.

1           11.   (Currently amended) The method of claim 10, wherein the at least one ~~or~~  
2   ~~more~~ candidate ~~matches~~ match is a ~~are suggested completions~~ completion to the numeric  
3   data entry, and prior to the receiving a response step, providing the at least one ~~multiple~~  
4   candidate ~~matches~~ match to a user interface.

1           12.   (Currently amended) The method of claim 10, wherein the ~~one or more~~ at  
2   least one candidate ~~matches~~ match is ~~are~~ provided to a user interface, and the response signal  
3   is received from said user interface, further comprising the steps of:

4               d) if said response signal is an acceptance of one of the ~~one or more~~ at  
5   least one candidate ~~matches~~ match, replacing the numeric data entry with the accepted  
6   candidate match;

7               e) if the response modifies said numeric data entry continue at step (b)  
8   with the modified numeric data entry; and

9               f) if the response is a rejection of ~~all of the one or more~~ at least one  
10   candidate ~~matches~~ match, displaying the numeric data entry.

1           13.     (Currently amended) The method of claim 11, wherein duplicate numbers are  
2 removed from the ~~one or more~~ at least one candidate ~~matches~~ match.

1           14.     (Currently amended) The method of claim 10, wherein the numeric data entry  
2 entered by ~~the~~ a user is equal to or less than n digits long, and the applying a set of rules step  
3 comprises the step of retrieving ~~the~~ contents of ~~the~~ an address book location identified by the  
4 numeric data entry as a candidate match.

1           15.     (Currently amended) The method of claim 10, wherein the numeric data entry  
2 entered by ~~the~~ a user is equal to or less than n digits long, and the applying a set of rules step  
3 comprises the step of retrieving all numbers associated with ~~the~~ an address book location  
4 identified by the numeric data entry as a suggested completion.

1           16.     (Currently amended) The method of claim 10, wherein the numeric data entry  
2 entered by ~~the~~ a user is equal to or less than x digits long, where x is greater than m, and less  
3 than p, and the applying a set of rules step comprises the steps of:

4                 searching through a memory storage device, the memory storage device  
5 containing one or more stored numbers, and

6                 identifying stored numbers that match said numeric data entry as a candidate  
7 ~~matches~~ match, and adding these numbers to the at least one ~~multiple~~ candidate  
8 ~~matches~~ match.

1           17.     (Currently amended) The method of claim 16, wherein the identifying step  
2 comprises comparing ~~the~~ x most significant digits of the stored number to the numeric data  
3 entry.

1           18.     (Currently amended) The method of claim 10, wherein if ~~the~~ a number of  
2 digits in the numeric data entry is equal to x, and x is greater than q, then no candidate  
3 ~~matches~~ are match is displayed to the user.

1           19. (Currently amended) An apparatus for providing auto-completions for a  
2 partially entered numeric data entry by offering candidate matches, said candidate matches  
3 being selected from telephone numbers accessible to the apparatus, the apparatus  
4 comprising:

- 5                   a) a stored telephone number memory interface for accessing a list of  
6 stored telephone numbers;  
7                   b) a memory device for containing a program module;  
8                   c) an input interface; and  
9                   d) e) a processing unit coupled to the memory device, the stored telephone  
10 number interface and the input interface, the processing unit being operative in response to  
11 the instructions of the program module to:  
12                   i) receive a numerical data entry from the input interface; and  
13                   ii) ~~applying~~ apply a set of rules to identify a candidate match for said  
14 numerical data entry from the list of stored telephone numbers accessed via the stored  
15 telephone number memory interface, the set of rules implementing a plurality of variables,  
16 the plurality of variables defining a plurality of search states from which the candidate match  
17 is selected.

1           20. (Original) The apparatus of claim 19, wherein the apparatus is a cellular  
2 telephone.

1           21. (Original) The apparatus of claim 19, wherein the apparatus is a computer  
2 with a modem.

1           22. (Original) The apparatus of claim 19, wherein the apparatus is a hand held  
2 computer.

1           23. (Original) The apparatus of claim 19, wherein the apparatus is a telephone.

1           24. (Original) The apparatus of claim 19, further comprising an output interface,  
2 wherein a candidate match is supplied to the output interface.

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1           25.   (Original) The apparatus of claim 19, wherein a response associated with the  
2 candidate match can be provided via the input interface.

1           26.   (Original) The apparatus of claim 25, wherein if the response is an  
2 acceptance, then the numeric data entry is replaced with the candidate match.

1           27.   (Original) The apparatus of claim 25, wherein if the response is a rejection,  
2 the numeric data entry is displayed on the user interface.

1           28.   (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 25, wherein if the response is a  
2 modification, the set of rules it applied to the modified numeric data entry, and the candidate  
3 matches identified by the application of the set of rules are displayed on the a user interface.